

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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R 240650Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2103

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CH US UR XJ

SUBJECT: NCNA COMMENTARY ON SOVIET-US RIVALRY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

RF: HONG KONG 11133 (NOTAL)

1. IN THE FIRST PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA COMMENTARY ON SOUTHERN AFRICA IN ALMOST A MONTH, NCNA SEPTEMBER 23 PREDICTABLY DIRECTS MOST OF ITS FIRE TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION UNDER THE GENERAL RUBRIC OF INTENSIFIED SOVIET-US RIVALRY IN THE AREA. US MOVES ARE DESCRIBED AS BASICALLY REACTIVE TO THE INCREASING SOVIET

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PRESSURE. THE COMMENTARY CONCLUDES ON THE RATHER BLAND NOTE

THAT THE SUPERPOWER STRUGGLE WILL FURTHER ROUSE THE AFRICAN PEOPLE TO FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND HEGEMONISM.

2. SIGNIFICANTLY, SOVIET EXPANSIONISM IS LINKED TO WESTERN LACK OF WILL. MOSCOW'S "HEW TSARS" ARE ACCUSED OF "FEVERISHLY STEPPING UP THEIR INFILTRATION AND EXPANSION IN THE CONTINENT IN THE PAST FEW YEARS BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE APPEASEMENT TENDENCY PREVAILING IN THE WEST..." SOUTHERN AFRICA IS CALLED THEIR "NEXT TARGET OF ATTACK" FOLLOWING THE "ENCROACHMENT ON ANGOLA."

3. FOLLOWING A SIX-PARAGRAPH LISTING OF SOVIET SINS IN AFRICA, THE COMMENTARY NOTES THAT IN THE FACE OF THIS "AGGRESSIVE OFFENSIVE", THE US "IMPERIALISTS" ARE COMPELLED TO ADJUST THEIR POLICY. THE SECRETARY'S SPRING TRIP TO AFRICA IS REPORTED, ALONG WITH THOSE OF DEFENSE SECRETARY RUMSFELD, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELE AND GOVERNOR SCRANTON. IN ITS FIRST COMMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S MOST RECENT TOUR, NCNA STATES: "RECENTLY, KISSINGER MADE ANOTHER SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY TOUR TO AFRICA IN ORDER TO "MEET GROWING SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE REGION AND TO SAFEGUARD US INTERESTS THERE." THE COMMENTARY NOTES THE SOVIETS WERE "GREATLY ANNOYED" BY THESE US MOVES, AND EXPRESSED THEIR "FEAR" IN A RECENT IZVESTIA ARTICLE. IF THE US MOVES "ANNOYED" THE RUSSIANS, THEN BY PRC LIGHTS THEY CANNOT BE ALL BAD. CROSS

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